

LOUISIANA TURKEY HUNTING REGULATIONS 2004



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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HELP STOP POACHING
1-800-442-2511

Call Operation Game Thief's toll free hotline any time of day or night.
Remember, a poacher is stealing from YOU.

2004 TURKEY HUNTING REGULATIONS

Daily limit is one gobbler, **two gobblers per season**. Taking of hens (including bearded hens) is prohibited. Still hunting only. Use of dogs, baiting, electronic calling devices and live decoys is illegal. Turkeys may be hunted with shotguns, including muzzleloading shotguns, using shot not larger than #2 lead or BB steel shot, and bow and arrow but by no other means. Shooting turkeys from a moving or stationary vehicle is prohibited. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells prohibited.

No person shall hunt, trap or take turkeys by the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area. **Baiting** means placing, exposing, depositing or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any areas where hunter are attempting to take turkeys.

A **baited area** is any area where corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed capable of luring, attracting or enticing turkeys is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered. Such areas remain baited areas for 15 days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed.

Wildlife agents are authorized to close such baited areas and to place signs in the immediate vicinity designating closed zones and dates of closure.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries strongly discourages "feeding" agricultural grains to wild turkeys as this practice increases the risk of birds contracting potentially lethal diseases. Repeatedly placing grain in the same area may expose otherwise healthy birds to disease contaminated soils, grain containing lethal toxins and other diseased turkeys using the same feeding site. Properly distributed food plots (clovers, wheat, millet and chufa) are far more desirable for turkeys and have the added benefit of appealing to a wide variety of wildlife.

It is unlawful to take from the wild or possess in captivity any live wild turkeys or their eggs. No pen raised turkeys from within or without the state shall be liberated (released) within the state.

All licensed turkey hunters are required to have a turkey stamp in their possession while turkey hunting in addition to basic and big game hunting licenses. Additionally, a WMA Hunting Permit is required of any person (age 18-59) who hunts on land administered by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, including Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife Refuges and Habitat Conservation Areas.

A cash reward of not less than \$300 is offered by La. Operation Game Thief, Inc. to anyone giving information and/or testimony leading to the arrest of anyone violating wild turkey hunting regulations in the state of Louisiana. An additional award of up to \$300 is offered by the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. Contact your nearest LDWF regional law enforcement office for details or call the OGR toll free hotline, 1-800-442-2511. All calls are kept in strictest confidence!

**Statewide Turkey Hunting Areas
Shooting Hours**

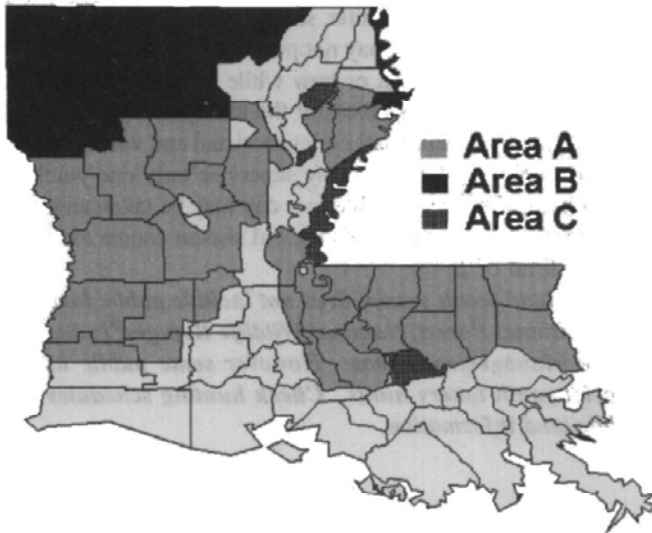
One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Area A: March 27-April 25

Area B: March 27-April 18

Area C: March 27-April 4

**Private Land Youth Hunt: March 20-March 21
(Open in Areas A, B and C)**



2004 TURKEY HUNTING SEASON

Open Only in the Following Areas

Area A: March 27-April 25

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PARISHES ARE OPEN:

Beauregard, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, LaSalle, Livingston, Natchitoches (Exception: see Federal Land Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates), Sabine, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Vernon (Exception: see Federal Land Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates), Washington, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana (including Racourci Island), Winn (Exception: see Federal Land Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates).

PORIONS OF THE FOLLOWING PARISHES ARE ALSO OPEN:

Allen - North of LA 104, west of LA 26 south of junction of LA 104 to US 190, north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165 south of Kinder.

Avoyelles - That portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection levee southward.

Calcasieu - North of I-10

Caldwell - West of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line, east of LA 165 from LaSalle Parish line to the junction of LA 126, north of LA 126 westward to the Winn Parish line.

Catahoula - West of Ouachita River southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north of LA 8 to LA 126,

north and east of LA 126. ALSO that portion lying east of LA 15. **Concordia** - That portion east of LA 15 and west of US 65 from its juncture with LA 15 at Clayton.

Evangeline - North and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 from St. Landry to LA 13, west of LA 13 from Pine Prairie to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou.

Franklin - That portion lying east of LA 17 and east of LA 15 from its juncture with LA 17 at Winnsboro.

Grant - All of the parish except that portion of land that lies north of the Red River between US 71 and LA 8. (Exception: see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates).

Iberville - West of LA 1. (EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.)

Jefferson Davis - North of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165.

Madison - That portion lying west of US 65 and south of US 80.

Pointe Coupee - All of the parish except that portion bounded on the north by LA 1, from Innis to the junction of LA 417, on the west by LA 417 southward toward McCrea, on the south by LA 417 from McCrea to its junction with Delhi Lane, then by Delhi Lane to LA 418, the LA 418 northward to LA 1 at Innis. (EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.)

Rapides - All of the parish except that portion of land that lies north of the Red River and south of US 71 from the its junction with the Red River northward to the Grant Parish line. (EXCEPTION: see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest Hunting dates).

Richland - That portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17.

St. Landry - That portion bounded on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River. (EXCEPTION: The Indian Bayou area, see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for the Indian Bayou Area dates).

Upper St. Martin - All within the Atchafalaya Basin. (EXCEPTION: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou area, see WMA Turkey Hunting schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou dates.)

Tensas - That portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604, and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry. Also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River.

Area B: March 27-April 18

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PARISHES ARE OPEN:

Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne (Exception: see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates), DeSoto, Jackson, Lincoln, Red River, Union, Webster (Exception: see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates).

PORTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING PARISHES ARE OPEN:

East Carroll - East of US 65 from Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line.

Ouachita - East of LA 143 from Union Parish line to US 80 in West Monroe, North of US 80 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to the Morehouse Parish line.

Madison - South of US 80 and east of US 65 to Tensas Parish line and all lands lying east of the main channel of the Mississippi River.

Morehouse - West of US 165 from the Arkansas line to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165, north of US 165 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to Ouachita Parish line.

Area C: March 27-April 4

PORTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING PARISHES ARE OPEN:

Ascension - All east of the Mississippi River.

Catahoula - That portion lying south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west of LA 8 to LA 913, west of LA 913 and LA 15 to Deer Creek.

Concordia - North and east of Sugar Mill Chute (Concordia Parish) from the state line westward to Red River, east of Red River northward to Cocodrie Bayou, east of Cocodrie Bayou northward to US 84, south of US 84 eastward to LA 15 (Ferriday), east of LA 15 northward to US 65 (Clayton), east of US 65 northward to Tensas Parish line.

Franklin - That portion lying west of LA 17, from Richland Parish line to LA 577 at Crowville, north of LA 577 to LA 15 at Baskin, east of LA 15 to Big Creek, and south and east of Big Creek to Richland Parish Line.

Iberville - All east of the Mississippi River.

Richland - West of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Rd., south of Ringle Rd. to Ferguson Rd., south of Ferguson Rd. to Little Rd., south of Little Rd. to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line.

Tensas - East and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry.

**2004 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
TURKEY HUNTING REGULATIONS
GENERAL**

The following rules and regulations concerning management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Section 109 of Title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT in designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 3:00 a.m. **All roads** including trails and roads designated as ATV only trails shall be closed to ATVs from March 1 through August 31 unless otherwise specified.

ATV off-road or off-trail travel is prohibited. Certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purpose. These trails will be marked by signs at the entrance of the trail. Otherwise, only walk-in hunting is permitted (bicycles permitted).

Bag limits on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey is allowed to be taken during special lottery hunts. In addition to the required turkey license and turkey stamp, hunters (ages 18-59) who hunt on WMAs, are required to have a WMA Hunting Permit (available through license vendors.) See *2003-2004 Hunting Season and Wildlife Management Area Regulation* booklet for a full description of WMA regulations.

PERMITS

SELF-CLEARING PERMITS: All turkey hunts, including lottery hunts, are self-clearing. Hunters must check in daily by obtaining a permit from a self-clearing station prior to hunting. The self-clearing permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting. Upon completion of each day's hunt, the hunter must check out by completing and depositing the hunter report portion of the permit in the check-out box at a self-clearing station before exiting the WMA.

LOTTERY HUNTS: Bayou Macon, Boise-Vernon, Loggy Bayou, Sabine, Sherburne, Sicily Island, Tunica Hills, Union, and West Bay WMAs are restricted to those persons selected as a result of the pre-application lottery. Special youth only lottery hunts will be held on Big Lake, Bens Creek, Fort Polk/Peason Ridge, Jackson-Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Sherburne and West Bay WMAs. Deadline for receiving applications for all lottery hunts is Feb. 13, 2004. An application fee of \$5 must be sent with each application. Applicants may submit only one application and may be selected for one WMA Turkey Lottery Hunt annually. Submitting more than one application will result in disqualification. Contact any regional office for applications. Hunters must abide by self-clearing permit requirements. Youths chosen for special youth only hunts will be guided by members of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. One family member may accompany the youth and guide, but may not hunt. Requests for information on WMA regulations, permits, lottery hunt applications and maps may be directed to any region office or visit our website at: www.wlf.state.la.us.

This public document was printed at a total cost of \$2,988.22. Sixty thousand (60,000) copies of this public document were printed in this first printing at a total cost of \$2,988.22. The total cost of all printings of this public document, including reprints is \$2,988.22. This material was printed by Division of Administration, State Printing Office, in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to La. R.S. 43:31. This document was published by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 to inform turkey hunters of the rules and regulations pertaining to the taking of turkeys in Louisiana.

Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule*

WMA	SEASON DATES	PERMIT REQUIRED	LOTTERY DATES
Dayou Macon	April 10-April 11	Self-clearing	April 10-April 11
Ben's Creek†	March 27-April 18	Self-clearing	None
Big Lake	March 27-April 4	Self-clearing	None
Bodau	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Boeuf	March 27-April 4	Self-clearing	None
Boise Vernon	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 25	Self-clearing	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4
Camp Beauregard	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Fort Polk	March 27-April 25	Self-clearing	None
Grassy Lake	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Hutchinson Creek	March 27-April 25	Self-clearing	None
Jackson-Bienvenue	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Lake Ramsey	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Little River	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Loggy Bayou	April 17-April 18	Self-clearing	April 17-April 18
Pearl River	March 27-April 18	Self-clearing	None
Peason Ridge	March 27-April 25	Self-clearing	None
Pomme de Terre	March 27-April 11	Self-clearing	None
Red River	March 27-April 4	Self-clearing	None
Sabine	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4	Self-clearing	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4
Sandy Hollow†	March 27-April 18	Self-clearing	None
Sherburne‡	March 27-April 4	Self-clearing	March 27-March 28 March 29-March 31
Sicily Island	March 27-April 4	Self-clearing	March 27-March 29 March 30-April 1 April 2-April 4
Three Rivers	March 27-April 4	Self-clearing	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4 April 10-April 11 April 17-April 18	Self-clearing	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4 April 10-April 11 April 17-April 18
Tunica Hills Angola Tract#	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4 April 10-April 11 April 17-April 18	Self-clearing	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4 April 10-April 11 April 17-April 18
Union	April 10-April 11	Self-clearing	April 10-April 11
Walnut Hills	March 27-April 25	Self-clearing	None
West Bay	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4	Self-clearing	March 27-March 28 April 3-April 4

*Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed have a turkey hunting season. All other areas are closed.

** The deadline for receiving applications for all turkey Lottery Hunts on WMAs is Feb. 13, 2004.

† No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

‡All turkeys harvested on Sherburne WMA must be weighed and checked at WMA headquarters.

#Scouting access limited. Contact Region 7 office for details: (225)765-2360.

WMA	Lottery Youth Hunt Date
Bens Creek	March 20
Big Lake	March 20
Fort Polk/ Peason Ridge	March 20
Jackson-Bienvenue	March 20
Loggy Bayou	April 10
Sherburne	March 20
West Bay	March 20

Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

Kisatchie National Forest (KNF): Caney Ranger District, March 27-April 11; all remaining KNF lands, March 27-April 18 (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves.)

Indian Bayou (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers): March 20 Handicap only hunt; March 27-April 4, lottery hunt only on March 27-28 and March 29-31. Contact U.S.C.O.E. at (337)585-0853 for further information.

National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto N.W.R., March 27-April 25; Lake Ophelia N.W.R., March 27-29 (lottery only), April 3-25; Tensas N.W.R. March 20-March 21 (youth lottery only) March 27-April 11. Contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information regarding N.W.R. hunts.

PRIVATE LAND YOUTH HUNT REGULATIONS

During private land youth season (March 20-21 in Areas A, B and C), only youths younger than 16 years of age may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Each youth must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm or bow. Youths may possess only one firearm or bow while hunting. Legal weapons and shot are the same as described for the turkey season.

The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. An adult may supervise only one youth during this special hunt. Only one gobbler per day may be taken and any gobbler taken by the youth during this special season counts towards their seasonal bag limit of 2.

Private land youth season does not include public land such as Kisatchie National Forest, National Wildlife Refuges, Indian Bayou, or Wildlife Management Areas. However some public lands may have special youth lottery hunts. Check hunting schedules for specific public land information.



Regional Office Locations:

Region 1: 1401 Talton St., Minden 71055; (318)371-3050

Region 2: 368 Century Park Drive, Monroe 71203; (318)343-4044

Region 3: 1995 Shreveport Hwy., Pineville 71360; (318)487-5885

Region 4: P.O. Box 1640, Ferriday 71334; (318)757-4571

Region 5: 1213 N. Lakeshore Dr., Lake Charles 70601; (337)491-2575

Region 6: 5652 Hwy. 182, Opelousas 70570; (337)491-2575

Region 7: P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge 70898; (225)765-2360

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For more information about turkey and other hunting seasons, visit our website:

www.wlf.state.la.us